**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A clamp connector for at least two aligned flexible ribbon cables, comprising a base piece, a spring ~~elements~~ element for pressing together the surfaces being contacted, and a mating piece, wherein the base piece and the mating piece can be attached to each other in a prelocking position and in a final locking position, characterized in that:

the at least two flexible ribbon cables, with their respective subregions stripped of insulation for contact, are pressed on each other; and

the sides of the base piece and of the mating piece facing the flexible ribbon cables being connected have complementary depressions or projecting reliefs, by means of which the flexible ribbon cables are guided for formation of a strain relief, and

wherein the spring element has a number of steel springs, fixed in the base piece, corresponding to the number of conductive tracks of the flexible ribbon cables.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The clamp connector according to claim ~~2~~ 1, further characterized in that the steel springs are centrally ~~caulked~~ fixed strips, the respective two ends of which are spirally wound inward.

4. (Previously presented) The clamp connector according to claim 3, further characterized in that the mating piece has a cross rib between the support sites of the steel springs.

5. (Previously presented) The clamp connector according to claim 1, further characterized in that the base piece has a bottom plate and two side walls, on which catches are arranged for the prelocking position and the final locking position of the mating piece.

6. (Previously presented) The clamp connector according to claim 1, further characterized in that the ribs formed on the base piece and on the mating piece run transverse to the longitudinal direction of the flexible ribbon cables and form terminal stops for the head ends of the flexible ribbon cables being connected.

7. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 1, further characterized in that the base piece has a recess, through which two bare flexible ribbon cables, which are arranged on the top side and the bottom side of the base piece, are pressed against each other by respective spring elements, which are arranged on the mating pieces locked at the top side and the bottom side of the base piece.

8. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 7, further characterized in that the strain relief is formed by

lances engaging in slots provided in the respective flexible ribbon cables.

9. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 7, further characterized in that the spring elements or a spring element are (is) constructed as contact springs with lateral protrusion as a ground tap and the flexible ribbon cable(s) is (are) stripped of insulation on both sides.

10. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 7, further characterized in that each of the two mating pieces has a terminal stop shoulder for the head end of the respective flexible ribbon cable.

11. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 7, further characterized in that,

for formation of a Y connector, two flexible ribbon cables are inserted on the two sides of the base piece with their head end in the same direction and

the base piece has a slot, roughly at the level of its meridian plane between its top side and its bottom side, for inserting a third flexible ribbon cable, the front region of which is stripped of insulation on both sides and which crosses the recess in the base piece and is supported, at the opposite-lying edge of the recess, in a receiving groove, and the spring elements press together all three flexible ribbon cables in the region of the recess.

12. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 7, further characterized in that the third flexible ribbon cable

passes out of the base piece at the end thereof, which is placed opposite the end from which the first two flexible ribbon cables project.

13. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 7, further characterized in that the spring elements in each mating piece each originate from a common base plate, which, together with the base plate of the spring element arranged on the other mating piece, forms a closed shielding around the contact site of the flexible ribbon cables.

14. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 13, further characterized in that the base plates of the spring elements rest on the flexible ribbon cables with side walls that pass through cross slots in the base piece and that are provided with elastic spring arms, the side walls of the two base plates being essentially aligned flush with each other.

15. (Withdrawn) The clamp connector according to claim 12, further characterized in that terminal stops for the flexible ribbon cables are arranged on the base piece on both sides.

16. (New) A clamp connector for connecting at least two flexible ribbon cables, comprising:

a base;

a mating piece, wherein the base and the mating piece are movably attached to each other between a fixed prelocking position and a fixed final locking position; and

at least one spring element connected to the base, wherein the at least one spring element is adapted to press conductive surfaces of the ribbon cables together,

wherein the at least one spring element has a number of steel springs corresponding to a number of conductive tracks of the flexible ribbon cables.

17. (New) A clamp connector as in claim 16 wherein sides of the base and sides of the mating piece facing the flexible ribbon cables have complementary depressions and projecting reliefs which are adapted to guide the flexible ribbon cables and form at least one strain relief for the ribbon cables.

18. (New) A clamp connector for connecting at least two flexible ribbon cables, comprising:

a base;

a mating piece, wherein the base and the mating piece are connected to each other between a fixed prelocking position and a fixed final locking position; and

at least one spring element fixed to the base, wherein the at least one spring element is adapted to press surfaces of the ribbon cables together, and wherein the at least one spring element has steel springs.

19. (New) A clamp connector as in claim 18 wherein sides of the base and sides of the mating piece facing the flexible ribbon cables have complementary depressions and projecting reliefs which are adapted to guide the flexible ribbon cables and form at least one strain relief for the ribbon cables.